

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06438 241829Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05
SOE-02 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 AID-05 CEA-01
COME-00 H-01 INT-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 STR-07
TRSE-00 /142 W

-----041643 241837Z /64

P R 241725Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5483
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USDOE WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06438

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, PARM, NL, GW, UK
SUBJECT: URENCO-OR OTHER-FUEL SUPPLY TO BRAZIL

REF: (A) BONN 7445; (B) COPENHAGEN 2370

1. ON APRIL 24 WE DISCUSSED THE URENCO SITUATION WITH
PATRICK MOBERLY, ASST UNDER SECRETARY IN THE FOREIGN
OFFICE, AND MARTIN BOURKE, OF THE FCO'S JOINT NUCLEAR
UNIT.

2. MOBERLY AND BOURKE SAID THAT DISCUSSIONS ARE STILL
GOING ON WITH THE DUTCH. THE LATTER HAVE COME UP WITH
YET ANOTHER FORM OF WORDS TO SUCCEED THE FORMULA THEY
TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO SELL ON THE MARGINS OF THE
COPENHAGEN EUROPEAN COUNCIL. MOBERLY IS SKEPTICAL ABOUT
THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE LATEST DUTCH EFFORT. IT IS
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PROBABLY UNSALEABLE TO THE BRAZILIANS; IT'S NOT NECES-
SARY, SINCE IT WILL BE A LONG TIME BEFORE THERE WILL
ACTUALLY BE ANYTHING COMING OUT OF THE BRAZILIAN PRO-
GRAM TO STORE; AND IT'S UNDESIRABLE, SINCE IT WOULD
PREEMPT THE ISSUE OF STORAGE, WHICH IS ONE THAT SHOULD
BE DEALT WITH INTERNATIONALLY. HOWEVER, THE OFFICIAL
POSITION IS THAT THE BRITISH AND THE GERMANS ARE

"STUDYING" THE NEW DUTCH FORMULA.

3. THE BRITISH DON'T FEEL A STRONG SENSE OF URGENCY (PERHAPS LESS THAN THE GERMANS) AND ARE LIKELY TO GIVE THE DUTCH PLENTY OF TIME TO TRY TO SOLVE THEIR DOMESTIC AND PARLIAMENTARY PROBLEMS. THE BRITISH HAVE HEARD SOME NOISES FROM GERMANY ABOUT FRG IMPATIENCE, BUT DON'T KNOW HOW SERIOUSLY THESE SHOULD BE TAKEN. "OF COURSE," BOURKE SAID, "WE DO THINK ABOUT THE UNTHINKABLE." IT MAY BE THAT THE ONLY WAY OUT, GIVEN BRITISH COMMITMENT TO THE BRAZIL DEAL, WILL BE A TWO COUNTRY CONSORTIUM. BUT THERE IS, MOREOVERLY EMPHASIZED, NO PROPOSAL FOR SUCH; AND SINCE THIS WOULD MEAN THE BREAKUP OF URENCO, TO WHOSE SURVIVAL AND INDEED STRENGTHENING BRITAIN ALSO ATTACHES MUCH IMPORTANCE, THERE IS NO DESIRE TO MOVE IN THAT DIRECTION.

BREWSTER

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